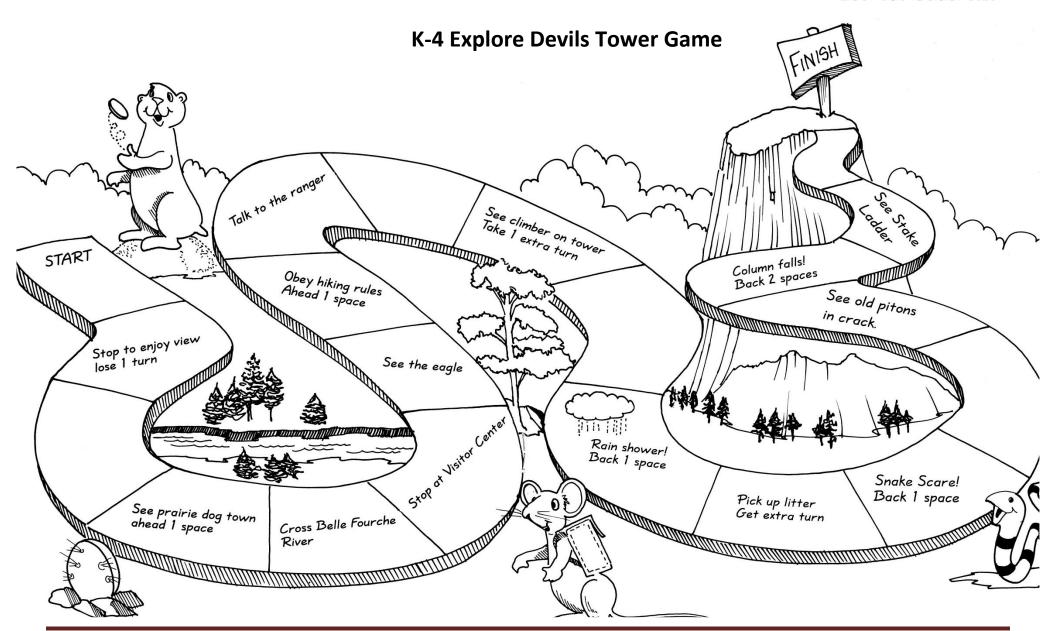
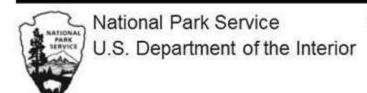


Devils Tower National Monument

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What do you think you would find at the top of Devils Tower? Can you imagine finding snakes, packrats, or chipmunks? All of these mammals have been seen at the summit of Devils Tower! This rocky area actually supports many plants and animals that have adapted to its harsh **environment** (surroundings).

How do you think they got there? It is the opinion of some people that predatory birds may have dropped them. Others believe it is more likely they just climbed up the Tower like humans. Many climbers have reported seeing snakes or rodents inching their way up the cracks, too!

The top of the Tower is not as flat as you might think as you view it from ground level or high up in a plane. The soil is thin, yet several varieties of plants grow there. Many people report it looks much like the surrounding countryside since grasses, sagebrush, currants, and prickly pear cactus can be found.

Lichen, a moss-like plant, grows on the tower. Colors range from yellow and green to red. Climbers must be careful when it rains because the wet lichen can become very slippery.

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DIRECTIONS:

Choose a marker. Flip a coin for moves:

heads—move one space tails—move two spaces.